

## CLAIMS

1. A point of sale terminal comprising:  
point of sale transaction circuitry; and  
a socket for selectably receiving and supporting a mobile computing/communicating device and for permitting communication between said mobile computing/communicating device and said point of sale transaction circuitry,  
said point of sale transaction circuitry is operative both independently of and in cooperation with said mobile computing/communicating device.
2. A point of sale terminal according to claim 1 and also comprising a display associated with said point of sale transaction circuitry.
3. A point of sale terminal according to claim 2 and also comprising transaction security circuitry associated with said point of sale transaction circuitry and with said display.
4. A point of sale terminal according to claim 1 and also comprising a hard-wired interface circuitry for permitting communication between said mobile computing/communicating device and said point of sale transaction circuitry.
5. A point of sale terminal according to claim 1 and also comprising wireless interface circuitry for permitting communication between said mobile computing/communicating device and said point of sale transaction circuitry.
6. A point of sale terminal according to claim 1 and wherein said mobile computing/communicating device comprises a device selected from the group consisting of portable computers, PDAs, beepers, portable telephones, mobile communicators and cellular telephones.

7. A point of sale terminal according to claim 1 and also comprising auxiliary memory selectably associatable with said point of sale transaction circuitry.